

Listing of All Claims Including Current Amendments

1. (currently amended) A video imaging system, comprising:
 - a camera head transmitting image data;
 - a camera control unit receiving and processing said image data from said camera head, said camera control unit having a detachable configurable component; said detachable configurable component including a processor;
 - a storage device accessible by said camera control unit; and
 - a software program stored on said storage device;said camera control unit receiving said software program and overwriting an existing software program on said processor, said processor configuring said detachable configurable component for processing the image data, wherein said detachable configurable component is completely removable from said camera control unit such that a different detachable configurable component is installable in said camera control unit.
2. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 1, further comprising a camera head identifier received by said camera control unit for retrieving said information from said storage device.
3. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 2, wherein said camera head transmits said camera head identifier.
4. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 1, wherein said camera head includes said storage device.
5. (cancelled)

6. (previously presented) The video system according to claim 1, wherein said program specifies said at least one replaceable hardware component.
7. (cancelled)
8. (previously presented) The video system according to claim 1, wherein said at least one replaceable hardware component further includes a memory device.
9. (previously presented) The video system according to claim 1, wherein said at least one replaceable hardware component further includes a field programmable gate array.
10. (previously presented) The video system according to claim 1, further comprising a video bus and said at least one replaceable hardware component attaches to said video bus.
11. (previously presented) The video imaging system according to claim 1, wherein said replaceable hardware component includes a connector.
12. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 11, wherein said connector receives the image data.
13. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 11, wherein said connector outputs a signal processed from the image data.
14. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 1, wherein said camera control unit further comprises hardware capable of processing at least two different types of image data.

15. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 1, wherein said information routes the image data received by said camera control unit to the hardware capable of processing a specified type of image data.

16. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 1, wherein said information enables said camera control unit to issue commands to said camera head.

17. (currently amended) A video imaging system, comprising:

a camera head transmitting image data; and

a camera control unit receiving and processing the image data from said camera head;

said camera control unit having a detachable configurable component comprising a processor;

said camera control unit receiving a software program and overwriting an existing software program on said processor, said processor configuring said detachable configurable component for processing the image data, wherein said detachable configurable component is completely removable from said camera control unit such that a different detachable configurable component is installable in said camera control unit.

18. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 17, further comprising a storage device accessible by said camera control unit.

19. (previously presented) The video imaging system according to claim 18, wherein said program is stored on said storage device.

20. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 17, further comprising a connector for outputting a signal processed from the image data.

21. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 17, wherein said at least one replaceable hardware component processes at least two different types of image data.

22. (currently amended) A video imaging system, comprising:

a camera head transmitting image data;

a camera control unit receiving and processing the image data from said camera head;

said camera control unit having a detachable configurable component comprising a processor; and

a software program executing on said processor and overwriting an existing software program on said processor, said processor configuring said detachable configurable component in said camera control unit to process the image data;

wherein said detachable configurable component is completely removable from said camera control unit such that a different detachable configurable component is installable in said camera control unit.

23. (original) The video imaging system according to claim 22, further comprising a storage device accessible by said camera control unit.

24. (previously presented) The video imaging system according to claim 23, wherein said program for configuring the processor is stored on said storage device.

25.-32. (cancelled)